CLAIM AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims in accordance with the following listing.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10   (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Original):   A method of reducing a likelihood of misassembly of data fragments from fragmented IP datagrams, comprising the steps of:

receiving data fragments of a datagram having an IP identification number; and

discarding all received data fragments of the datagram upon detection of receipt of an overlapping data fragment having the IP identification number, wherein the overlapping data fragment overlaps data in an already-received data fragment.

Claim 12 (Original):   A method as in claim 11, wherein the overlapping data fragment overlaps all of the already-received data fragment.

Claim 13 (Original):   A method as in claim 11, wherein the overlapping data fragment overlaps less than all of the already-received data fragment.

Claim 14 (Original):   A method as in claim 11, wherein the steps are performed by an IP layer of a receiving station's communication system.

Claim 15 (Original): A method of reducing a likelihood of misassembly of data fragments from fragmented IP datagrams, comprising the step of reducing a timeout for reassembling the datagrams to less than a standard timeout.

Claim 16 (Original): A method as in claim 15, wherein the data fragment reassembly timeout is reduced to 45 seconds from the standard timeout of 64 seconds.

Claim 17 (Original): A method as in claim 15, wherein the data fragment assembly timeout is dynamically reduced based on NFS data for round-trip times between a sending station and a receiving station.

Claim 18 (Original): A method as in claim 15, wherein the step is performed by an IP layer of a receiving station's communication system.

Claim 19 (Original): A method of reducing a likelihood of misassembly of data fragments from fragmented IP datagrams, comprising the steps of:

receiving data fragments of a datagram having an IP identification number; and

reducing a remaining time for reassembling the datagram upon detection of a gap in the received data fragments.

Claim 20 (Original): A method as in claim 19, wherein the remaining time for reassembling the datagram is reduced to eight seconds.

Claim 21 (Original): A method as in claim 19, wherein the steps are performed by an IP layer of a receiving station's communication system.

Claim 22 (Original): A method of reducing a likelihood of misassembly of data fragments from fragmented IP datagrams, comprising the steps of:

receiving data fragments of a first datagram having a protocol identification number, a source address, and a first IP identification number; and

reducing a remaining time for reassembling the first datagram upon detection, before receipt of a last data fragment of the first datagram, of a data fragment of a second datagram having the protocol identification number and the source address but having a second IP identification number.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A method as in claim 22, wherein the remaining time for reassembling the first datagram is reduced to eight seconds.

Claim 24 (Original): A method as in claim 22, wherein the steps are performed by an IP layer of a receiving station's communication system.

Claims 25-44 (Canceled).